

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A communication system for providing information of a medical doctor's questions to patients, said communication system comprising a medical doctor terminal apparatus, a patient terminal apparatus, and a database server apparatus for storing question sets for the medical doctor's questions to patients, said medical doctor terminal apparatus, said patient terminal apparatus and said database server apparatus are connected to each other through a communication network,

wherein said patient terminal apparatus comprises:

first interface means for establishing a network connection and data communication between the database server apparatus and said patient terminal apparatus via the communication network;

first receiving means for receiving at least one question set from said database server apparatus, each question set being dependent on a particular patient among a plurality of patients;

template storing means for storing template question programs which correspond to predetermined answer forms and are not dependent on a particular patient;

generating means for generating, upon receiving the question sets from said database server apparatus, question programs which are dependent on a particular patient among a plurality of patients using a patient-independent template program so that patient-dependent question programs are not transmitted through the communication network, by inserting the question sets received from said database server apparatus into the template question programs, thereby retaining security of the questions to patients, the question programs being used for providing medical doctor's questions to patients;

displaying means for displaying questions for the medical doctor's questions to patients by executing the question programs generated by said generating means;

entering means for entering answer data to the displayed questions; and

transmitting means for transmitting the entered answer data to said

database server apparatus, and storing the transmitted answer data in said database server apparatus; and

second interface means for terminating the network connection and data communication between the database server apparatus and said patient terminal apparatus;

wherein said medical doctor terminal apparatus comprises second receiving means for receiving the answer data stored in said database server apparatus by accessing said database server apparatus, and displaying the received answer data, and

wherein the patient dependent question programs are not transmitted through the communication network.

2. **(Canceled)**

3. **(Previously Presented)** The system as claimed in claim 27, wherein the answer forms include at least one of:

(a) a first answer form for answering by selecting at least one among a plurality of selection sentences of answers as an answer to a question; and

(b) a second answer form for answering by using a numerical value as an answer to the question.

4. **(Previously Presented)** The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein each of the question sets includes data indicative of an answer form, and a question sentence.

5. **(Original)** The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein each of the question sets further includes at least one selection sentence.

6. **(Original)** The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein each of the question sets further includes a goal answer entered by a medical doctor.

7. **(Previously Presented)** The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

said patient terminal apparatus further comprises answer data storing means for storing entered past answer data; and

said displaying means displays past answer data stored in said answer data storing means in conjunction with a question.

8. **(Original)** The system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the second answer form includes at least one of:

(a) a third answer form for answering by directly entering a numerical value as an answer to the question; and

(b) a fourth answer form for answering by entering a numerical value indicative of an answer with either one of increasing and decreasing a numerical value starting at an initial value, as an answer to the question.

9. **(Previously Presented)** The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein:

said patient terminal apparatus further comprises answer data storing means for storing entered past answer data; and

the initial value of the numerical value is a numerical value indicative of a previous answer of the particular patient included in the past answer data stored in said answer data storing means.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said generating means comprises changing means for changing a display layout of the at least one selection sentence according to at least one of a number of selection sentences and a length of each selection sentence.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said medical doctor terminal apparatus further comprises:

transmitting and storing means for entering a remedy policy for a patient, transmitting the entered remedy policy to said database server apparatus, and storing the transmitted remedy policy in said database server apparatus; and

third receiving means for receiving the stored remedy policy for the patient by

accessing said database server apparatus, and displaying the received remedy policy.

12. **(Previously Presented)** The system as claimed in claim 11, wherein said medical doctor terminal apparatus further comprises link controlling means for controlling said third receiving means in accordance with a command from an operator so that said third receiving means receives the stored remedy policy for the patient by accessing said database server apparatus and displays the received remedy policy, when said second receiving means receives the answer data and displays the received answer data.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said database server apparatus comprises:

first storing means for storing information about each respective patient;

second storing means for storing questions for medical doctor's questions for each respective question;

third storing means for storing information about linking between the respective patients and respective questions; and

fourth storing means for storing answer data from said patient terminal apparatus.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said third storing means further stores a goal answer entered by a medical doctor, in addition to the information about linking between the respective patients and respective questions.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A patient terminal apparatus for use in a communication system for providing information of a medical doctor's questions to patients, the communication system comprising a medical doctor terminal apparatus, said patient terminal apparatus, and a database server apparatus for storing question sets for the medical doctor's questions to patients, said patient terminal apparatus, the medical doctor terminal apparatus and the database server apparatus being connected to each other through a communication network, said patient terminal apparatus comprising:

first interface means for establishing a network connection and data communication between the database server apparatus and said patient terminal apparatus

via the communication network;

receiving means for receiving at least one question set from the database server apparatus, each question set being dependent on a particular patient among a plurality of patients;

template storing means for storing template question programs which correspond to predetermined answer forms and are not dependent on a particular patient;

generating means for generating, upon receiving the question sets from said database server apparatus, question programs which are dependent on a particular patient among a plurality of patients using a patient-independent template program so that patient-dependent question programs are not transmitted through the communication network by inserting the question sets received from said database server apparatus into the template question programs, thereby retaining security of the questions to patients, the question programs being used for providing medical doctor's questions to patients;

displaying means for displaying questions for the medical doctor's questions to patients by executing the question programs generated by said generating means;

entering means for entering answer data to the displayed questions; and

transmitting means for transmitting the entered answer data to the database server apparatus and storing the transmitted answer data in the database server apparatus; and

second interface means for terminating the network connection and data communication between the database server apparatus and said patient terminal apparatus,

wherein the patient dependent question programs are not transmitted through the communication network.

16. **(Canceled)**

17. **(Previously Presented)** The patient terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein the answer forms include at least one of:

(a) a first answer form for answering by selecting at least one among a plurality of selection sentences of answers as an answer to a question; and

(b) a second answer form for answering by using a numerical value as an answer

to the question.

18. **(Previously Presented)** The patient terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein each of the question sets includes data indicative of the answer form, and a question sentence.

19. **(Previously Presented)** The patient terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein each of the question sets further includes at least one selection sentence.

20. **(Previously Presented)** The patient terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein each of the question sets further includes a goal answer entered by a medical doctor.

21. **(Previously Presented)** The patient terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 15, further comprising answer data storing means for storing entered past answer data, wherein said displaying means displays past answer data stored in said answer data storing means in conjunction with a question.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The patient terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the second answer form includes at least one of:

(a) a third answer form for answering by directly entering a numerical value as an answer to the question; and

(b) a fourth answer form for answering by entering a numerical value indicative of an answer with either one of increasing and decreasing a numerical value starting at an initial value as an answer to the question.

23. **(Previously Presented)** The patient terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 22, further comprising answer data storing means for storing entered past answer data, wherein the initial value of the numerical value is a numerical value indicative of a previous answer of the particular patient included in the past answer data stored in said answer data storing means.

24. **(Previously Presented)** The patient terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 19, wherein said generating means comprises changing means for changing a display layout of the at least one selection sentence according to at least one of a number of selection sentences and a length of each selection sentence.

25-26. **(Canceled)**

27. **(Previously Presented)** The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein template storing means stores template question programs which correspond to predetermined answer forms and are not dependent on a particular patient, and

wherein the generating means generates question programs which are dependent on a particular patient among a plurality of patients, by inserting question sets received from said database server apparatus into the template question programs.

28. **(Previously Presented)** The patient terminal apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the template storing means stores template question programs which correspond to predetermined answer forms and are not dependent on a particular patient, and

wherein the generating means for generates question programs which are dependent on a particular patient among a plurality of patients, by inserting question sets received from said database server apparatus into the template question programs.